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ORIGINAL LETTER CONTRIBUTED TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY ARCHER R. AND CHARLES H. ANDERSON THROUGH GOVERNOR FRANK O. LOWDEN.

Denver, Colorado.

Hon. Frank O. Lowden,
Governor of the State of Illinois.

Dear Sir:

By tomorrow's mail, we are forwarding to you a package, containing a star belonging to the 10th Illinois Infantry Battle Flag, that has been in the possession of our family for fifty-four years.

Our home town was Marshall, Clark County, Illinois, where our ancestors were among the first settlers, arriving in that locality in 1816.

Should it be proper, in your judgment, to place this star, as it is now framed, in the glass case that holds the 10th Illinois Infantry Battle Flag, in order that it may not lose its identity, or should you decide that it be best to detach it from the frame and attach it to the flag among the other stars, either plan will be very much appreciated.

We are enclosing with this letter, a letter written by Col. Wm. B. Archer, an uncle of our mother. The interesting item in this letter, you will find on the fourth line of the second page, where Uncle William states he nominated Abraham Lincoln for Vice-President. This letter you may deem of enough importance to have handed to the State Historical Society. Should it be accepted and be given a place among the archives, we will be pleased.

We were personally acquainted with many men in this section, who were selected to hold high positions in the State, among them were the Hon. John Scolfield and the Hon. Jacob Wilkin, both Justices of the Supreme Court. Hon. James W. Graham of Marshall, Illinois, is a personal friend of ours.

Your Very Respectfully,

(Signed) CHAS. H. ANDERSON,

(Signed) ARCHER R. ANDERSON.

810 Equitable Bldg., Denver, Colo.

Col. Wm. B. Archer of Marshall, Clark County (the writer of the letter mentioned, and which was addressed to H. P. H. Bromwell, dated June 21, 1856), was born in Kentucky, January 30, 1792. He came from Ohio to Illinois in 1816. He was a Civil Engineer by profession.

"He was tall of stature, spare made and slightly stooped, had the endurance of an Indian, was insensible to fatigue, a man of iron. His character was rugged, strong and resolute and marked with a peculiar individuality. He had a sound judgment, a firm confidence and an abiding faith in his own convictions of right and a moral courage to defend them that is rarely met with. The people recognized his sterling quality and he at once took a commanding position in the affairs of the infant settlement. He then commenced a long, busy and useful career. In politics he was a whig and a partisan, yet respectful for the opinion of others. In private life he was genial and kind, and around his private character cluster many noble virtues. His religious convictions we never knew, but suffice to say he was an honest man. He was an honored member of the Masonic Fraternity for sixty years. But the absorbing and controlling idea of his life was the improvement and development of the country; for this he labored, for this he toiled and for this he gave the best years of his manhood. He did more for Clark county than any man in his day or since, but no recognition, pecuniary or otherwise, was ever given him for his long and valuable services.

"Possessed at one time of ample means, yet so absorbed was he in his scheme of public improvements, that he was careless as to his private affairs, and became involved and lost nearly everything. Time bent his form, silvered his locks and enfeebled his step, but it could not conquer his spirit. But at last the end came. Bowed down by the weight of nearly eighty years and infirmities incurred by a long life of incessant toil for the general good, on the 9th day of August, 1870, he calmly passed to his final reward, leaving as his only legacy an untarnished name, and the enduring monuments of his labor and enterprise in Clark County."

He sleeps in the Walnut Prairie cemetery, beside his father, Zachariah Archer, a soldier of the Pennsylvania Line in the war of the American Revolution.

ARCHER R. ANDERSON,

CHAS. H. ANDERSON.

LETTER OF WM. B. ARCHER TO H. P. H. BROMWELL.

Washington, D. C., June 21, 1856.

*H. P. H. Bromwell,

Dear Sir:—The House as good as adjourned on the 29th May, a goodly number of the party attending the Cincinnati Convention, many on our side went to the Philadelphia Convention, and have generally returned, nothing has been done in the House until yesterday. My case will come up this week, on the 13th. I went to New York on the subject of our road on Saturday 14th, saw Mr. Lanier and Winslow. They have not as yet settled with contractors, but intend to do it. Mr. Smith was there, did not see him, they were expecting Sanger et al on there. The road will be made and commence on the west end firstly which is right. At each end and work to the center is

*Henry Pelham Holmes Bromwell, born at Baltimore, Md., August 26, 1823, died Denver, Colorado, January 9, 1903, came from Ohio to Clark County, Illinois, in 1836. Came to Vandalia, Illinois, in 1850, moved to Charleston. In 1870 located in Colorado, where he became a distinguished citizen. Was a Lincoln presidential Elector in 1860. Representative to Congress 1865-1869 from the 7th Ill. Congressional District, which composed the counties of Vermilion, Coles, Edgar and Douglas. Was a member of the Illinois Constitutional Convention of 1870.

my plan to hasten the work and conciliate the friends of the road and this must be conceded. You have learned that at Philadelphia we nominated Fremont and Dayton. I was the devoted friend of Judge McLean, only 19 of our delegation for him the balance for Fremont. He is a man who cannot be warped from his own view or moved from the position he takes by these flattering deceptive office seekers. We will have made out the true character of Mr. Fremont and Dayton, and that of Mr. Buchanan. In a short time you shall be furnished with all the documents you desire, on each side to enable you to do up the work understandingly. I started A. Lincon for Vice President on the evening of the 18th after dark, and it took well, they, however, were committed to Dayton who is a first class man and with his influence, so near to and intimate the citizens of the two states, Pennsylvania can be carried for Fremont. The contest will be warm, not to the extent in our State as if Douglas had been nominated. His satelites in Illinois must be deeply wounded. Constable had thrown himself into his arms some time since. Douglas is and will be down, laid on the shelf, despised by the high minded and honorable men of his party in the South and elsewhere. He was neglected, overlooked, and F. Pierce he too is, must be a miserable man. A Whig meeting was called here this evening. I attended as did Mr. Staunton of our house. James Jones of Tennessee, Senator, led off full of fire, etc., to organize over this land the old Whig party. Some five or six hundred present—Democrats, Fremont, Filmore men, etc. They ask extension from the Fourth of July to the last Wednesday in July to meet at Louisville. Such bitterness I never saw. L. D. Campbell was present, came to look on, did not intend to speak, but when observed he was called out, and stated that he had ever been a Whig, a Clay Whig, was an American, belonged to the order, which Jones abused, well Sir a scene took place that I never expected to see, and it appeared to me that violence must take place. Campbell is extension of Slavery and he spoke fearlessly though a motion was made to drag him down. A motion to move to the City Hall, and at this moment all the lights in the House but one was instantly put out, and an attempt to put the last one out. We stood by Campbell went to the City Hall and on

the steps Campbell gave them his views fearlessly, denouncing the administration. One man made at Campbell, he was recognized as an agent of the Post Office. Come on says Campbell shaking wickedly his neat small cane at him, he was stopped by the crowd around him. Campbell spoke defiantly and as brave as Caesar. Warm and unpleasant will be the contest but it must be met and we will succeed. Fremont and Dayton we must carry in our State. You must take care of your health and when furnished with all the documents and evidence necessary as you will be, in the style I named, horse, buggy and trunk, move over the District, and when commenced make a business of it. Please write me, and how the current is setting.

Yours truly,

W. B. ARCHER.
